

# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ord. Time  
Year C, 25 September, 2022

Embracing the communities of  
Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon,  
Proston and Wondai



*Unity in Diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!*

## The Nameless Man – Pope Francis

The Pope then turned to the day's Gospel from Saint Luke, in which the evangelist recounts the parable of "a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day, and who was leading the good life". Pope Francis observed that "he was so content that he failed to realise that Lazarus lay at the door of his home covered in sores: a poor homeless man, and like a good homeless man he had a dog". Lazarus "lay there, hungry, and he ate only what fell from the rich man's table: crumbs". The Pope remarked: "Perhaps when Jesus was recounting this parable, he was thinking of the Canaanite woman who begged him to restore her daughter's health: she only asked for the crumbs" that are given to the dogs.

The Gospel account of Lazarus and the rich man causes us to reflect, Pope Francis said. "We know the homeless man's name: his name was Lazarus. But what was the rich man's name? He doesn't have a name!" This "is the most powerful curse" for the person who "trusts in himself or in the strength and human abilities rather than in God: he loses his name!" Such a man, when asked his name, responds not with his own proper name but by pointing to his possessions, his "property and villas", or "to things, to idols".

"Looking at these two men," the Pope continued, "to the poor man with a name who trusts in the Lord; and the rich man who has lost his name and who trusts in himself, we can say: it is true, we need to trust in the Lord!" And yet, he said, "we all have this weakness, this frail tendency to place our hopes in ourselves or in our friends or in human possibilities alone, and we forget the Lord". It is a frame of mind that leads us

"down the road of unhappiness" far away from the Lord. This, Pope Francis said, is the authentic meaning of the biblical expression: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord; cursed is the man who trusts in himself and human abilities".

This reflection is especially fitting for Lent, the Pope said. "And so today we would do well to ask ourselves: Where do I place my trust? Have I placed it in the Lord or am I a pagan who trusts in things, in idols that I have fashioned? Do I still have a name, or have I begun to lose my name and to identify myself only as "I" with all its variations: "me, with me, for me, only me: always egoism, I!" This way of living, the Pope said, will most certainly "not bring us salvation".

And yet the Gospel offers "a door of hope to all those who have rooted themselves in a trust in man and in themselves, who have lost their name". "In the end, in the end, there is always a way", he said. The rich man himself bears witness to this. "When he realises that he has lost his name, that he has lost everything, he raises his eyes and speaks a single word: 'Father!'. And God responds with one single word: 'Son!'. Thus, for those who have placed "their trust in man, in themselves, and who have lost their name and dignity, there still remains the possibility of speaking this word, which is far greater than magic, far greater and more powerful: 'Father!'. We know that "he is always waiting for us, waiting to open a door that we do not see, and he will say to us: 'My child!'"

Pope Francis concluded: "May the Lord grant us all the wisdom to trust only in him and not in things or in human strength: only in him". He also prayed for all those who have lost this trust,

*continued on next page...*

## Memorial Mass for Sister Carmel

A Mass to celebrate the Life of Sister Carmel will be held in Saint Joseph's Murgon on the Sixth of October at 5.00pm. This will be followed by dinner at the Royal Hotel.

## Mass Times Next Week

**Tuesday, 27 September**

Gayndah, 12 noon

**Wednesday, 28 September**

Wondai, 5.00pm

**Thursday, 29 September**

Murgon, 5.00pm

**Friday, 30 September**

Castra, 9.00am

**Saturday, 1 October**

Proston, 9.00am

Wondai, 5.00pm

**Sunday, 2 October**

Murgon, 8.00am

Gayndah, 10.30am

Goomeri, 6.00pm

## Today's readings

Amos 6:1,4-7; 1 Timothy 6:11-16;  
Luke 16:19-31

*Response:*

Praise the Lord, my soul.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

Next Sunday: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4;  
2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14; Luke 17:5-10

...continued from previous page

that God might grant them "at least the light" to perceive and pronounce "this word that saves, that opens a door and enables us to hear the voice of the Father who calls us: 'My child'".



## Saint Lawrence Ruiz – 28th September

Saint Lorenzo Ruiz was born around the year 1600 in Binondo, Manila in the Philippines. He was the son of a Chinese father and a Filipino mother. Both were Christians and took care to raise Lorenzo as a Catholic. He served happily in his parish church as an altar boy and calligrapher.

As a young man, Lorenzo joined the Dominican Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary. Later, he married a woman named Rosario. The happy couple had three children, two sons and one daughter. By all accounts, the family was ordinary and happy.

In 1636, Lorenzo was accused of murder. Allegedly he killed a Spaniard. However, to protect his safety at the time, he fled home and found refuge on board a ship with three Dominican priests and a leper. There are no details of this alleged crime other than a journal entry by two Dominican priests, that he joined their group to escape possible arrest. The ship departed the Philippines on 10 June, 1636, bound for Okinawa.

A shock awaited the holy passengers when they arrived in Japan. At the time

of their arrival, the rulers of Japan, the Tokugawa Shogunate, were persecuting Christians. Prior to this persecution, the Christian population of Japan was thought to number 50,000 souls.

Now Lorenzo was arrested by Japanese officials for the crime of being a Christian and ordered to recant his faith. When he refused he was imprisoned for two years. On 27 September, 1637, Lorenzo and his companions were taken to Nagasaki to be tortured and killed if they would not recant their faith. Lorenzo and his companions were tortured by water, which was forced into their mouths and down their throats and out their noses and ears. Despite the painful torture, the men refused to do so.

Following this, Lorenzo was hanged upside down, with a rope around his ankles. This method of torture was known as tsurushi, or "gallows and pit". The torture forces a person to be hanged upside down with a gash cut in their forehead to prevent too much blood from gathering in the head. The gash also causes the victim to bleed to death over an extended period of time. Those who have survived the torture have said it is unbearable.

One hand is left free so the victim can offer an agreed symbol that will represent their desire to recant their faith. Those few who recant are spared and allowed to live. But few people ever recanted, choosing instead to die for their faith.

Lorenzo refused to recant. According to the record of his death, his last words were, "I am a Catholic and wholeheartedly do accept death for God. Had I a thousand lives, all these to Him I shall offer. Do with me as you please". His traveling companions were all killed, steadfast until the end.

Lorenzo was beatified by Pope John Paul II on 18 February, 1981. The beatification ceremony was held in the Philippines making it the first beatification ceremony ever held outside the Vatican. A miracle attributed to his intercession occurred in 1983. A two-year-old girl, Alegria Policarpio, suffering from hydrocephaly,



## Parish Directory, Saint Joseph's Parish

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Bryan Pipins SJ  
Tel: Parish Office, **0499 006 959**  
Parish e-mail: [murgon@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:murgon@bne.catholic.net.au)  
24 Angel Avenue, MURGON  
PO Box 60 Murgon 4605  
Parish website:  
[murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au](http://murgon.brisbanecatholic.org.au)

## Safeguarding

If you have experienced abuse or misconduct, you can ring the help line, **1300 304 550**. Information can be shared anonymously.

### We pray for those who are sick:

Bevan Barsby; Cira; Renee Elliott;  
Scottie Ewart; Justine Forde;  
Val Iacono; Annette McCorry.

## Collection for 18/9/2022

Loose..... \$609.75  
Planned Giving..... \$320.00  
Total..... \$929.75

**Direct Debit** BSB 064-786  
Account 100011987

a condition she had since birth, was miraculously cured.

His canonisation took place at the Vatican on 18 October, 1987. Saint Lorenzo Ruiz is the patron saint of Filipino youth, the Philippines, people working overseas, and altar servers.



2022 ANNUAL  
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Our Church · Our Mission · Our Community

Thank you for all your support in the Catholic Campaign for this year. We forward to the campaign \$700.00. This does not include that which individuals sent directly. This money goes to very important works within the archdiocese, thank you.